

in a Reserve component as a member of the Ready Reserve performing annual training, active duty for training or inactive duty training. Continuous or repeated active uniformed service or full-time National Guard duty that results in eligibility for a regular retirement from the Armed Forces is not considered non-career service.

Officer. For determining those Service officials authorized to provide advance notice to a civilian employer of pending uniformed service by a Service member or an individual who has applied for uniformed service, an officer shall include all commissioned officers, warrant officers, and non-commissioned officers authorized by the Secretary concerned to act in this capacity.

Uniformed service. Performance of duty on a voluntary or involuntary basis in the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marine Corps or the Coast Guard, including their Reserve components, when the Service member is engaged in active duty, active duty for special work, active duty for training, initial active duty for training, inactive duty training, annual training or full-time National Guard duty, and, for purposes of this part, a period for which a person is absent from a position of employment for the purpose of an examination to determine the fitness of the person to perform such duty.

§ 104.4 Policy.

It is DoD policy to support non-career service by taking appropriate actions to inform and assist uniformed Service members and former Service members who are covered by the provisions of 38 U.S.C. chapter 43, and individuals who apply for uniformed service of their rights, benefits, and obligations under 38 U.S.C. Chapter 43. Such actions include:

(a) Advising non-career Service members and individuals who apply for uniformed service of their employment and reemployment rights and benefits provided in 38 U.S.C. chapter 43, as implemented by this part, and the obligations they must meet to exercise those rights.

(b) Providing assistance to Service members, former Service members and

individuals who apply for uniformed service in exercising employment and reemployment rights and benefits.

(c) Providing assistance to civilian employers of non-career Service members in addressing issues involving uniformed service as it relates to civilian employment or reemployment.

(d) Considering requests from civilian employers of members of the National Guard and Reserve to adjust a Service member's scheduled absence from civilian employment because of uniformed service or make other accommodations to such requests, when it is reasonable to do so.

(e) Documenting periods of uniformed service that are exempt from a Service member's cumulative 5-year absence from civilian employment to perform uniformed service as provided in 38 U.S.C. chapter 43 and implemented by this part.

(f) Providing, at the Service member's request, necessary documentation concerning a period or periods of service, or providing a written statement that such documentation is not available, that will assist the Service member in establishing civilian reemployment rights, benefits and obligations.

§ 104.5 Responsibilities.

(a) The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, under the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, shall:

(1) In conjunction with the Departments of Labor (DoL) and Veterans Affairs, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), and other appropriate Departments and activities of the executive branch, determine actions necessary to establish procedures and provide information concerning civilian employment and reemployment rights, benefits and obligations.

(2) Establish procedures and provide guidance to the Secretaries concerned about civilian employment and reemployment rights, benefits and obligations of Service members who are covered by the provisions of 38 U.S.C. chapter 43 and individuals who apply for uniformed service as provided in 38 U.S.C. chapter 43. This responsibility shall be carried out in coordination with DoL, OPM, and the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board.

§ 104.6

32 CFR Ch. I (7–1–00 Edition)

(3) Monitor compliance with 38 U.S.C. chapter 43 and this part.

(4) Publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER, DoD policies and procedures established to implement 38 U.S.C. chapter 43.

(b) The Secretaries of the Military Departments and the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall establish procedures to:

(1) Ensure compliance with this part.

(2) Inform Service members who are covered by the provisions of 38 U.S.C. chapter 43 and individuals who apply for uniformed service of the provisions of 38 U.S.C. chapter 43 as implemented by this part.

(3) Provide available documentation, upon request from a Service member or former Service member, that can be used to establish reemployment rights of the individual.

(4) Specify, as required, and document those periods of active duty that are exempt from the 5-year cumulative service limitation that a Service member may be absent from a position of civilian employment while retaining reemployment rights.

(5) Provide assistance to Service members and former Service members who are covered by the provisions of 38 U.S.C. chapter 43, and individuals who apply for uniformed service in exercising employment and reemployment rights.

(6) Provide assistance, as appropriate, to civilian employers of Service members who are covered by the provisions of 38 U.S.C. chapter 43 and individuals who apply for uniformed service.

(7) Cooperate with the DoL in discharging its responsibilities to assist persons with employment and reemployment rights and benefits.

(8) Cooperate with OPM in carrying out its placement responsibilities under 38 U.S.C. chapter 43.

§ 104.6 Procedures.

The Secretaries of the Military Departments and the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall:

(a) Inform individuals who apply for uniformed service and members of a Reserve component who perform or participate on a voluntary or involuntary basis in active duty, active duty

for special work, initial active duty for training, active duty for training, inactive duty training, annual training and full-time National Guard duty, of their employment and reemployment rights, benefits, and obligations as provided under 38 U.S.C. chapter 43 and described in Appendix A of this part. Other appropriate materials may be used to supplement the information contained in Appendix A of this part.

(1) Persons who apply for uniformed service shall be advised that DoD strongly encourages applicants to provide advance notice in writing to their civilian employers of pending uniformed service or any absence for the purpose of an examination to determine the person's fitness to perform uniformed service. Providing written advance notice is preferable to verbal advance notice since it is easier to establish that this basic prerequisite to retaining reemployment rights was fulfilled. Regardless of the means of providing advance notice, whether verbal or written, it should be provided as early as practicable.

(2) Annually and whenever called to duty for a contingency operation, advise Service members who are participating in a Reserve component of:

(i) The requirement to provide advance written or verbal notice to their civilian employers for each period of military training, active and inactive duty, or full-time National Guard duty.

(A) Reserve component members shall be advised that DoD strongly encourages that they provide advance notice to their civilian employers in writing for each period of pending uniformed service. Providing written advance notice is preferable to verbal advance notice since it easily establishes that this prerequisite to retaining reemployment rights was fulfilled.

(B) Regardless of the means of providing advance notice, whether written or verbal, it should be provided as early as practicable. DoD strongly recommends that advance notice to civilian employers be provided at least 30 days prior to departure for uniformed service when it is feasible to do so.

(C) The advance notice requirement can be met by providing the employer with a copy of the unit annual training schedule or preparing a standardized